

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Final action dated October 19, 2005, claims 1, 2, 8 – 11, 14, 16 – 19, and 21 were rejected and claims 3 – 7, 12 – 13, 15, and 20 were objected to. In response, Applicants propose amending claims 1, 11, and 16, canceling claims 3, 4, 12, 13, 15, and 16, and adding claims 22 – 24 and hereby request reconsideration of the application in view of the below-provided remarks.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants note with appreciation that claims 3 – 7, 12 – 13, 15, and 20 were deemed to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response, Applicants propose the amending the claims to include all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 = claims 1 + 3

Claim 1 is amended to include the limitations of claims 1 and 3. Applicants assert that the proposed amendment be entered to put the claim in condition for allowance.

Claim 11 = claims 11 + 12

Claim 11 is amended to include the limitations of claims 11 and 12. Applicants assert that the proposed amendment be entered to put the claim in condition for allowance.

Claim 16 = claims 16 + 20

Claim 16 is amended to include the limitations of claims 16 and 20. Applicants assert that the proposed amendment be entered to put the claim in condition for allowance.

New Claim 22 = claims 1 + 4

New claim 22 includes the limitations of claims 1 and 4 as filed. Applicants assert that the proposed new claim is in condition for allowance.

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New Claim 23 = claims 11 + 13

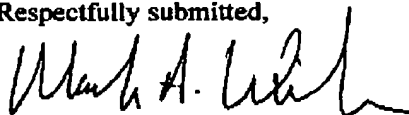
New claim 23 includes the limitations of claims 11 and 13 as filed. Applicants assert that the proposed new claim is in condition for allowance.

New Claim 24 = claims 11 + 15

New claim 24 includes the limitations of claims 11 and 15 as filed. Applicants assert that the proposed new claim is in condition for allowance.

Applicants respectfully request that the proposed amendments be entered and a Notice of Allowance entered.

Respectfully submitted,



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Mark A. Wilson
Reg. No. 43,994

Wilson & Ham
PMB: 348
2530 Berryessa Road
San Jose, CA 95132
Phone: (925) 249-1300
Fax: (925) 249-0111